

ESP

BULLETIN

SPRING 1998, VOL. X, ISSUE 2

EMERGENCY POWER

Earthquakes, firestorms, floods and other emergencies may damage or disrupt electrical lines and systems, leaving you without power.

The magnitude 6.7 Northridge earthquake in 1994 damaged several Los Angeles City Department of Water and Power (DWP) facilities, including the Sylmar Converter/Switching Station and the Rinaldi Receiving Station, where most of the city's bulk imported electrical power is received. The quake also damaged several high-voltage transmission lines and caused some towers to fail completely.

As a result, much of the city was left without power for the first time in its history. DWP personnel were able to restore service to 93 percent of the city within 24 hours, but it may take much longer in a larger, regional earthquake.

Another 750,000 customers in nearby cities and in cities tied to the power grid from other states also were affected.

Could you and your family cope without power for several days? Do you, a family member or neighbor rely on power to sustain life-support equipment?

Don't be left in the dark or put your life at risk to potential power failure. Empower your family by preparing your home for a potential loss of power by taking the steps described in this ESP Bulletin.



**BE AWARE,
PREPARE
FOR ALL
HAZARDS**

January
Flooding

February
Landslides

March
Africanized Honey Bees

April
Earthquake

May
Tsunamis

June
Hazardous Materials

July
Bomb Threats

August
Heat Wave

September
Volcanoes

October
Wildfires

November
Windstorms

December
Carbon Monoxide & Radon

Published by the
Governor's Office of Emergency Services

FLASHLIGHTS

Flashlights can provide psychological comfort and immediate emergency light when earthquakes or other disasters disrupt power. But they're only good when you can find them and the batteries work.

Place a flashlight in every room. Secure each one to ensure access. Maintain an ample supply of extra batteries. Check the batteries every six months.

LIGHTSTICKS

Lightsticks also are an excellent source of emergency light and do not require electricity or batteries to operate. Maintain an ample supply for each family member.

EMERGENCY LIGHTING

Emergency wall units that plug into electrical sockets and activate when electricity is disrupted also can provide emergency light during power outages.

RADIOS

Reliable information and instructions are essential after damaging earthquakes and other emergencies. Empower yourself and your family by including battery-operated portable radios or televisions and extra batteries in your emergency preparedness kits.

